

SUSPEND REALITY AND IMAGINE, IT'S:

**The 5th Annual Audit of Urban Forester Certification Program
“The Road to Professionalism”
January 8, 2012**

Summary: Congratulations we have substantially met our 5-year goals as stated within the program. We are in good standing to go national next year with Urban Forest Council's (UFC) “Greenfrastructure” initiative. In this program, certification, professionalism, and leadership will be our primary objectives. UFC will initiate five chapters and we anticipate 50% increase in certification candidates by next year.

There are now 501 Certified Urban Foresters in good standing. Of these 46 reside and practice in other states including Washington, Oregon, Arizona, New York, Illinois and Minnesota; 7 are from China; 4 from Japan; 2 from Canada; and 1 from England. Most of the out of state and all of the international Professionals work in the public sector as academics or for government agencies.

Financially the certification program is solvent and now provides 53% of UFC's operation budget. This year, gross receipts from candidates and certified professionals fees are \$250,000. Once the program goes national it is anticipated receipts will increase 20% per year.

Our public relations program is fully operational and is focused on going national next year and in two years international. Our award winning magazine, “The Urban Forester”, web site, and CEU programs have been updated to meet the challenge.

2012 Certification Tests: Due to popular demand, two test sessions were held this year, one in Sacramento and the other in Los Angeles. There were a total of 726 candidates of which 291 passed (40% passing rate). The following chart indicates the program's yearly progress:

Five-Year Test Projections

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	total
Candidates	20	40	80	140	302	726	1,308
Passing	3	8	20	42	106	290	
% Passing	15 %	20 %	25 %	30 %	35 %	40%	
Total CUF	35	43	63	105	211	501	

Post Certification Analysis: As part of their prerequisites the candidates are asked to provide proof of their education and professional experience. In addition they are issued a questionnaire in which they are required to provide vital demographics for program analysis and efficacy. The five-year program has been consolidated into the following chart:

2012 Candidates Demographics

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
<u>Age of Candidates</u> (avg.)	48	44	36	32	30	28
<u>Work Sector Ratio</u> Public / Private	75/25	70/30	65/35	60/40	55/45	50/50
<u>Education (college)</u> # of years (avg.)	3	4	5	5	6	6
<u>Experience</u> # of years (avg.)	26	22	14	10	8	6
<u>Gender Ratio</u> male/female	90/10	85/15	75/25	65/35	60/40	55/45